

Patent Claims

1 – 8 (canceled)

9. (new) A switch contact arrangement, comprising:

a first moving switch contact;

a second switch contact, provided for the first switch contact;

an erosion display for the switch contacts, comprising:

an erosion pointer; and

a display surface or display edge,

wherein the erosion pointer follows the movement of the first switch contact and, with the contacts closed, extends beyond the display surface or display edge only when the value for the erosion of the switch contacts is less than a given maximum value; and

a marking in the form of a cutting surface or cutting edge and is suitable for guiding the cutting edge of a tool and is provided for cutting the erosion pointer,

whereby the marking is separated from the display surface or display edge by the maximum permitted erosion of the switch contacts.

10. (new) The switch contact arrangement according to Claim 9, wherein the erosion pointer is made from plastic.

11. (new) The switch contact arrangement according to Claim 9, wherein a supporting surface parallel to the erosion pointer is provided in order to support the erosion pointer during cutting.

12. (new) The switch contact arrangement according to Claim 9, wherein the moving switch contact has a contact holder and a contact lever supported on the contact holder by a contact force spring and the erosion pointer of the erosion display is free to slide in a drill hole that acts as a guide in the contact holder, such that the display surface or display edge is formed by a first side, open to the drill hole, of a first recess in the contact holder, and the marking is formed by a first side of a second recess which is open to the first recess.

13. (new) The switch contact arrangement according to Claim 12, wherein the

supporting surface is formed by a section of the drill hole, and said section being open to the floor of the first recess.

14. (new) The switch contact arrangement according to Claim 12, wherein the second recess forms lateral guide surfaces for the tool.

15. (new) A method for cutting an erosion pointer in a switch contact arrangement, comprising:

providing an erosion pointer that extends beyond a marking when a first and second switch contacts are closed; and
cutting the erosion pointer at the marking.

16. (new) The method for cutting an erosion pointer according to Claim 16, wherein a slotted screwdriver is used as a tool for cutting.